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Appl. No. 09/489,310
Docket No. 7922
Amdt. dated 12/05/2007
Reply to Amendment dated 11/29/2007
Customer No. 27752
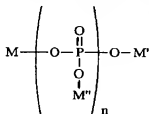
DEC 0 5 2007

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-22. (cancelled)

23. (currently amended) A method of treating dental erosion comprising orally administering to a mammal, who has decided to ingest, for the purpose of treating said dental erosion, in need thereof an effective amount of a beverage composition having a pH of less than about 5;

wherein the beverage composition comprises a compound having the structure:

$$M-\!\!-O-\!\!\!\underset{\underset{M''}{\overset{\overset{O}{\|}}{\underset{|}{O}}}}{P}-\!\!\!O-M'\Bigg)_n$$

wherein n is an integer averaging from about 7 to about 100 and M, M', and M" are each, independently, selected from the group consisting of sodium and potassium, and wherein the beverage composition is substantially free of calcium and fluoride.

24. (previously presented) A method according to Claim 23 wherein the beverage composition has a pH from about 2 to about 4.5.

25. (previously presented) A method according to Claim 24 wherein the beverage composition further comprises a sweetener.

26. (previously presented) A method according to Claim 25 wherein M, M', and M" are each sodium.

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27. (previously presented) A method according to Claim 26 wherein n is an integer averaging from about 10 to about 30.

28. (previously presented) A method according to Claim 27 wherein the beverage composition has a pH from about 2.7 to about 3.5.

29. (previously presented) A method according to Claim 28 wherein n is an integer averaging from about 13 to about 25.

30. (previously presented) A method according to Claim 29 wherein the beverage composition comprises from about 0.1% to about 20% of the sweetener, by weight of the composition.

31. (previously presented) A method according to Claim 30 wherein n is an integer averaging from about 19 to about 25.